

2019 INTERNATIONAL ACAC EXECUTIVE BOARD APPLICATION

Name: Tina Forbush

Title: Director of College Counseling

Member Type: High School

Institution: Singapore American School

Location: Singapore

Position for which you are applying:
Vice President for Admissions Practices



PUBLIC BALLOT INFORMATION

Provide information regarding your professional roles:

A college counselor of nearly fifteen years, I began working in Singapore American School's (SAS) college counseling office in 2016. Now the Director of College Counseling, I work with a team of six talented counselors for a senior class of roughly 285 students. I also coach the SAS mock trial and sophomore debate teams. Prior to my work at SAS, I was the Director of College Counseling at The Park School of Baltimore, a progressive independent school in Maryland. At Park, I also had teaching responsibilities in the History Department, where I taught courses including 20th Century World History, Criminal Law, and the History of Music. I also have a law degree (Yale Law School 1998), have clerked for the State Supreme Court of Hawai'i, have worked at several law firms in Washington, D.C., and am a trained mediator.

Provide information regarding your International ACAC, NACAC, and/or other international education organizational experience.

I was proud to join International ACAC in 2016 and, soon thereafter, to join the Government Relations Committee (now the Advocacy and Outreach Committee, or AOC). As a member of the AOC, I am in charge of all of our communications. I was excited to present at a session on onboarding at last year's International ACAC conference. I have attended both CIS Forum and CIS-EARCOS in Bangkok; I am also one of two SAS site directors for the Mastery Transcript Consortium (MTC). Here in Singapore, I have led panels and presentations at the Global University Counselor Connect (GUCC) conference for the past two years. I have been a NACAC member since 2004 and attended every NACAC conference from 2004-2017. In Baltimore, I was the Chair of the College Counselors of the Association of Independent Maryland and DC Schools, organizing quarterly meetings for 60 member schools.

Please provide a maximum 250-word statement of your experiences, why you wish to run for the International ACAC Board, and other relevant information you would like members to know about you.

The Admissions Practices Committee needs a leader who gets along with a wide range of people, can navigate tricky ethical scenarios, and who is happy to geek out on the couch with a cup of tea and a copy of NACAC's Code of Ethics and Professional Practices (CEPP). Given these requirements, I am perfectly suited for the role. I have significant management experience in schools, most recently as the director of a team of seven college counselors. I have worked my way through many difficult situations and have spent the past fourteen years interacting with admissions representatives, families, IECs, and my fellow high school counselors. Most significantly, I am deeply interested in questions of professional ethics. The only way that we can serve students well is to ensure that they are operating within a system that holds itself up to the highest standards of equity and transparency. This is especially true as we look to supporting our students who have the fewest resources. I have witnessed the good, the bad, and the ugly in this field, and I would love to be in a position to do something about the problematic elements. My legal background means that I love reading and parsing texts and considering subtext, precedent, and history. I have always considered interactions with the SPGP, and now with the CEPP, an integral part of my job. It would be a joy to serve International ACAC and the students whom we support as the VP of this committee.